



State of Washington

DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

Mailing Address: 600 Capitol Way N - Olympia, Washington 98501-1091 - (360) 902-2200, TDD (360) 902-2207
Main Office location: Natural Resources Building - 1111 Washington Street SE - Olympia, WA

DETERMINATION OF NONSIGNIFICANCE (DNS)

Name of Proposal: WDFW WOOTEN WILDLIFE AREA HARTSOCK SPRING CREEK RESTORATION AND RIPARIAN ENHANCEMENT

Description of Proposal: Spring Restoration: The Hartsock Spring Creek runs from the upstream border of the Hartsock Unit in the Wooten Wildlife Area. Much of the stream and associated riparian and wetland habitat is in good condition. A pond was constructed at some time when the property was a farm that captured the spring water. Since then the pond has partially filled in and the stream has begun to restore itself and reconnect with the Tucannon R. The reach of the spring adjacent to where the pond is downstream approximately 200 meters is completely covered with Reed Canary Grass that grows into the channel creating a barrier for adult steelhead to pass. The project is designed to remove Reed Canary grass and restore the spring channel in that reach. Some large wood will be placed to provide cover for fish. The banks of the restored channel will be covered with a black permeable tarp to kill the canary grass and left in place for two years to eliminate the canary grass from within a riparian zone. The mulch (tarp) will then be planted with native riparian to re-establish riparian growth along the channel. Additionally, cottonwood and willow whips will be planted along the toe of the bank, between the tarp and the water's edge. The whips will start building the riparian and help define the spring channel by providing bank stability. The work will mostly be done by hand, although the use of a small excavator will be required to excavate the new channel. The restoration is intended to open up approximately ½ mile of spring tributary for steelhead spawning and native fish rearing habitat in the spring tributary.

Proponent/Applicant:

Dave Karl
PO Box 456
Walla Walla, WA 99362
(509) 527-4138

Location of Proposal, including street, if any: Washington State Wooten Wildlife Area, Hartsock Unit, Washington, Columbia County; Township 10N, Range 41E, Section 5 .Township 11N, Range 41E, Section 32 WM

Lead Agency: Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW)

WDFW has determined that this proposal will likely not have a significant adverse impact on the environment. Therefore, state law¹ does not require an environmental impact statement (EIS). WDFW made this determination of nonsignificance (DNS) after we reviewed the environmental checklist and other information on file with us.

We issued this DNS according to state rules.² We will **not act on this proposal for 14 days** from the date we issued the DNS. Agencies, affected tribes, and members of the public are invited to comment on this proposal or DNS. We must receive your comments within 14 days of the date of this letter. This means we must receive your comments by **August 12, 2010**

You can submit your comments by email to SEPAdesk2@dfw.wa.gov, through the WDFW SEPA website comment link at <http://www.wdfw.wa.gov/hab/sepa/sepa.htm>, fax to (360) 902-2946, or mail to the address below. When you send us your comments, please provide the name of the proposal in your comment letter.

Responsible Official: Teresa A. Eturaspe

Position/Title: SEPA/NEPA Coordinator, WDFW Regulatory Services Section

Address: 600 Capitol Way North, Olympia, WA 98501-1091

After the comment period closes, applicants may view the updated status of this proposal on the WDFW SEPA website: <http://www.wdfw.wa.gov/hab/sepa/sepa.htm>. Once the status is posted as final, applicants and permittees may take action on the proposal. When a proposal is modified or withdrawn, notice will be given in accordance with state law.¹

If you have questions about this DNS or the details of the proposal, contact Teresa Eturaspe at the address, e-mail, or fax number above; you can also call her at (360) 902-2575.

DATE OF ISSUE: July 29, 2010

SIGNATURE: 

Footnotes

1. RCW 43.21C.030(2)(c)
2. WAC 197-11-340(2).

SEPA Log Number: 10 -068. dns